



LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL

Sauget Area 2 Site  
Sauget, IL

**From: Richard Williams / Richard Ashley**

500 Monsanto Avenue

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EPA Region 5 Records Ctr.



223160

**Date:** April 19, 2004

Ning Li

CH2M Hill

GMCS Area 2 – Site R

The following items are:

☒ Enclosed      ☐ Requested      ☐ Sent Separately Via: \_\_\_\_\_

No. of Copies	Description
1	Inquip's response to concerns included in the CH2M Hill weekly report for 4-9-04

The above items are submitted:

☐ At your request      ☐ For your review      ☐ For your signature  
☐ For your files      ☐ For your action      ☒ For your information

Comments:

By:

Richard Ashley

Monday, April 19, 2004

URS Cooperation  
500 Monsanto Avenue  
Sauget, IL 62206

Richard Ashley  
URS  
Layout North Corner  
Serial Letter # 7603 - 138

Dear Mr. Ashley,

This is in reference to EPA concerns in relation to the "degradation" of the mixing platform along the trench alignment.

In the weekly summary report for the week ending 4-8-04, the following statement was made: "...Based on field observations, the backfill mix pad has decreased in elevation between one to three feet below ground surface in some areas, apparently because the bulldozer removed underlying "native" soil in addition to 'backfill material during mixing activities. Specifications state that backfill mixing surfaces shall be reconstructed with borrow fill to prevent incorporating underlying soil into the backfill'...."

From the above statement it appears that USEPA is of the opinion that our backfilling operations, or some of it, is not in accordance with the specifications.

We understand fully the concerns of USEPA. After careful review of paragraphs 3.11 of section 0222 of the specifications, it appears there is some misunderstanding about the intent of the specifications. The sentence quoted in the USEPA weekly report, are "Backfill mixing surfaces shall be ... into the backfill" was meant to apply to remote mixing areas only and not to the situation when mixing is adjacent to the trench.

As explained in the attached letter, dated 4-16-04, from Mueser Rutledge, there is nothing wrong with mixing into the backfill some native soils adjacent to the trench which are similar to the trench native soils incorporated in the mix design.

Monday, April 19, 2004

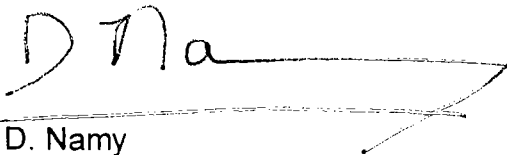
Serial Letter # 7603 - 138

(In case of a remote mixing operation there is insurance that the native soil at the remote mixing are similar to the one of the trench area.)

On the other hand, USEPA's concern is valid when the mixing process will take place on the top of the fly ash pit. We will propose you in the near future a plan for backfill missing in this area, [sta 19 + 00 to 10 + 00].

Please do not hesitate to call me if you have any questions.

Very truly yours,

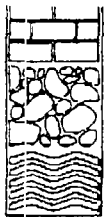
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D Namy', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

D. Namy

Inquip Associates

Attachments: MRCE's letter dated 4-16-04

cc: Site



# Mueser Rutledge Consulting Engineers

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April 16, 2004

INQUIP Associates, Inc.  
500 Monsanto Ave.  
Sauget, IL 62206

Attention: Mark Leitschuh

Re: Backfill Preparation  
Solutia Site R; Area 2  
MRCE File 10060

Gentlemen,

At your request, we have reviewed hydraulic barrier Specification 02222 Part 3.11.A addressing Backfill Preparation, and considered if this section would prevent using work platform fill for backfill preparation.

The specification permits backfill preparation adjacent to the trench or at a remote location. Backfill mix areas must be cleared and grubbed. Remote mixing areas, which are used to prepare many batches of backfill, must be lined with a compacted soil layer which may be incorporated in the prepared backfill. This compacted soil is to be reconstructed after multiple uses to prevent incorporating the underlying soil into the backfill.

Preparation of backfill adjacent to the trench is a different scenario. Typically, the preparation of the backfill travels with the backfill placement progress, so that less mixing is performed in any one location. This results in a minimum amount of incorporation of native soils into the backfill

Inquip Associates, Inc.

April 16, 2004

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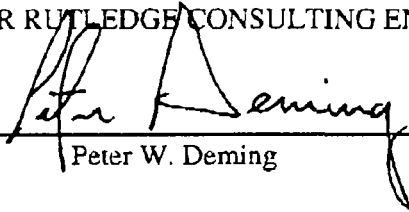
We understand that during trench-side mixing, some amount of the native soil from the working platform will be blended into the backfill. Since the selected backfill mix design included mostly native soils, this practice does not constitute a deviance from the specification as long as the prepared backfill meets the specified gradation and permeability criteria.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions regarding this review and opinion.

Very truly yours,

MUESER RUTLEDGE CONSULTING ENGINEERS

By: \_\_\_\_\_

  
Peter W. Deming